

SPCA 31st Annual Walk for the Animals



Virginia Beach, Virginia
October 25, 2009



Virginia Green is the Commonwealth of Virginia's campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. *Virginia Green Events* have been thoughtfully planned and designed to minimize the event's impacts on the environment. This event has met the established "core activities" for *Green Events* and has committed to communicate its activities to its participants. Below is a list of this event's "green" activities that participants can expect.

Walk for the Animals

"Grab your leash and hit the beach! Join us at the Virginia Beach Oceanfront for a day of family-friendly activities including costume contests for children & pets, games, local pet-friendly vendors, demonstrations, and—of course—plenty of furry friends."

Green Statement: "Respect for, and protection of, all forms of life is inherent to the humane ethic. The Virginia Beach SPCA, in its daily operation and activities as an animal shelter and humane education advocate, will lead efforts to implement improved practices and methods for extending compassion and respect beyond the welfare of animals and people in our communities. This will be accomplished by assuming heightened stewardship for both natural and donated resources through the realization of greater efficiencies, reduced consumption, and the adoption of renewable resources, thereby protecting and nurturing the quality of the environment and the interconnectedness of diverse species."



CORE ACTIVITIES for Green Events

☑ This symbol indicates a required activity for Virginia Green Events. Participants self-certify that these activities are in place and they provide additional specifics on other activities.

☑ **Recycling.** Events must provide recycling for its participants. Recycling should be highly visible and made available to the public with clear signage. The organizers of this event pledge that they provide recycling for:

- Aluminum cans, plastic bottles, paper, cardboard
- Composting of food and other compostable items

☑ **Styrofoam elimination.** Events should eliminate the use of Styrofoam cups and plates. If disposables are used, these products that bio-based, made from recycled content, recyclable, and/or compostable. The organizers of this event pledge that:

- Disposable cups and plates are made from recycled content paper
- Disposable cutlery is recyclable
- Replace Styrofoam with recyclable material wherever possible

☑ **Printed Materials.** Recycled-content, soy-based inks, and 2-sided copies -- and quantities should be minimized whenever possible! The organizers of this event pledge that they:

- Use electronic registration, correspondence and forms

- Print brochures and other printed items on recycled content paper and print all documents double-sided
- Purchase/use paper products with 30% or higher recycled content
- Use soy-based ink where available

☒ **Waste Reduction.** Event planners should make a general commitment to reduce the amount of waste generated by their event. The organizers of this event pledge that they:

- Chose a location/venue that shares a similar commitment to reducing its environmental impacts and include green specifics in contracting
- Arrange for composting of food waste and other compostables
- Avoid box lunches and serve trays/platters of food instead
- Encourage the use of mass-transit and/or carpooling to the event
- Encourage suppliers to minimize packaging and other waste materials
- Provide for recycling of boxes and other set-up wastes
- Purchase from vendors and service providers with a commitment to the environment

☒ **Green Signage.** Event planners must commit to tell their participants about how green the event is. Event signage should include the Virginia Green logo and list all "green activities" practiced in the planning and operation of the event. The organizers of this event pledge that they:

- Have a link on our website to the Virginia Green Events webpage
- Have a green event section on our event's webpage highlighting all of our green activities
- Have signs at the event registration which list all of our green activities
- Use the Virginia Green logo on signs and on recycling containers
- Have quantified our greening efforts and will post estimates of the reduced environmental impacts
- Signage for TFC recycling
- Use recyclable grocery totes instead of plastic goody bags for walkers
- Use email communication whenever possible

For more information on **VBSPCA Walk for the Animals**, see www.VBSPCA.com/walk or contact **Mary Grace Davis** at events@vbspca.com or 757-427-0700.

For more information on **Virginia Green** program, see www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/viriniagreeen. Click on "Events" for a more of green events.



Virginia Green is a partnership supported by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Tourism Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation.

